

ORIGINAL OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM
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TO:

Corporation Commission

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RE:

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COMMENTS ON APS's RF EMITTING METERS

I have many concerns with the so called "smart meters" that APS is promoting and installing on homes and apartments. My biggest concerns are with the health issues that arise with the constant emission of rf frequencies in the 900 MHz range.

My electrical meter is on the outside wall that is directly above a bedroom wall that has a bed underneath. This bedroom is used by me when I work late or by guests, when needed.

I have been reading about these new meters, but it wasn't until a guest stayed here and experienced ill health in the form of headaches and uneven sleep, that I became suspicious, as the guest told me that she is sensitive to rf emission. The 2nd nite she opted to sleep on the couch in the family room, far away from the meter and she told me she had a much better sleep, with no headache, although she said it still was not as good a sleep as at her home where she has the analog meter.

This piqued my interest and I began researching these new 2-way meters, learning that these meters not only penetrate walls and ceilings, but have been shown to penetrate the ground up to 3 feet! The digital meters emit pulsed rf radiation 24 hours a day 7 days a week, tens of thousands of times a day. Studies have shown that there is a huge difference between pulsed microwave radiation as compared to continuous wave, with one study suggesting that these meters inflict full body exposure at 160 times that of a cell phone. (Daniel Hirsch 2011)

In 2011, The World Health Organization (WHO) classified radio frequency radiation as possible carcinogenic. Andrew Weil has stated that "emf radiation may be the most significant form of pollution human activity has produced this century".

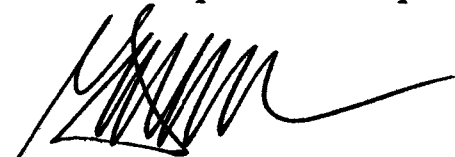
I have read that industry spokespeople have stated that the rf field power density will be about 0.1 watt per square centimeter. This does not sound like much until one realizes that that equates to 10 watts per square meter, a much more intense exposure to this radiation.

It is my contention that a utility company does NOT have the jurisdiction, let alone my permission, to radiate me, in my own castle.

Probably the most cogent point is: "Where is the evidence that these so called smart meters are safe? Where are the human health studies from people living in homes with these meters? These meters have to be studied on a long term basis, at least several years, in order to validate that they are safe and do not pose a health risk.

I do not desire to live in a home with this meter on the outside wall, emitting radiation on a constant basis and I do not think that I should be penalized for using the safer analog meter. Furthermore, there are states that have the "opt-out" provision and do not have a financial penalty for doing so.

I appreciate your consideration and evaluation of these points and trust that the commission will appraise both the health and the cost of this metering, as it pertains to customers who do not have an option for their power needs.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Hollister', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gary Hollister
10221 N. 58th Pl.
Scottsdale, AZ 85253